

BHOU THEATER. Natural Gas
DUQUEENE THEATER. Edward S. Willard
ALVIN THEATER. Rhea GRAND OPERA HOUSE ... WILLIAMS' ACADEMY
WORLD'S MUSEUM-THEATER
DAVIS' MUSEUM-THEATER The Night Owls HARRIS' THEATER..... The above are the theatrical attractions

The comic opera stage to-day has lots of room for young women of the Marie Tem-pest mold. The vivacity, humor and lightness of touch which characterize this young star, are the essential qualities to bring suc-cess in comic opera. Miss Tempest's voice is sufficient also for opera comique, and there is certainly not a woman to-day in that there is certainly not a woman to-day in that field who can come within hailing distance of her. Even in such a wretched piece as "The Tryolean" Miss Tempest contrives to shine, while with the larger opportunities afforded her in "Nanon" she is simply delicious. It is easy in writing of a young and charming woman to exaggerate, I know, but it is my calm and confident belief that if Miss Tempest gets an opera worthy of her abilities, and a manager who will look after the interests properly, she will vet eclipse all her rivals in comic opera. The fact is that statuesque, not to say cow-like, beauty and bearing, cannot much longer be the salvation of the comic opera artiste. We want some brains and some brightness as well as beauty. well as beauty.

Marie Tempest does not intend to desert America. Next season she says she will appear here under brighter auspices, and it is hinted that she has a new open as well as a new manager in the background. Pittsburg will welcome neralways.

For Sensational realism it is extremely beaten. The scenery, and the handling of it. were alike magnificent. The play, as a mel drama of the regulation Drury Lane pat-tern, hangs together well, and if crammed with crude impossibilities, possesses a lively interest. The brutality of the Stony Field Farm scene, with its physical violence to little children, is the one serious offense to good taste and decency in the piece.

"Natural Gas" is the old illuminant con siderably altered and improved which the Bijou Theater offers this week. It is one of the funniest, as it was one of the first, of the farce comedies. You are fully cognizant firee comedies. You are fully cognizant that a tarce comedy organization usually contains but three or four first-class artists, and that the remainder of the cast consists of "sticks" and "dummies" of various degrees of inferiority. The performance, therefore, depending for its success upon the efforts of a few clever performers; when the latter are not on the stage the entertainment becomes a bore and interest is apathetic until they reappear. The management of "Natural Gas" has made a radical departure in this particular by engaging none but ulented people. The most trifling characters in the play will be interpreted by well-known performers. There are no "fill ups" in the "Natural Gas" cast. Each and every member is high salaried and famous. The management is impelled by no motive of philanthrophy in making the astonishing innovation. They are sufficiently far-seeing to perceive that theater-goers of to-day "know a thing when they see it," and will liberally patronize a high-class entertainment. They look for no reward except the financial remuneration of the box office. The following is the comreward except the financial remuneration of the box office. The following is the complete cast of characters: Christopher Bluff, Mr. Henry V. Donnelly; Whiten O'Rourke, Mr. Edward Girand: Note F. Honell. Mr. Edward Girard: Nois E. Howell, Mr. George P. Murphy: Ginger Whipsauc Mr. Pete Mack; Johan Doodle, Mr. Waliace W. Black, Sparrow Grass, Mr. Sagar Midgley: Jimmy (Out of Sight), Mr. Edwin Lawrence; Daisy, Miss May Howard: Jimpag, Miss Kitty Kursale: Flowie, Miss Jesse Gardner: Tilite, Miss Kate B. Allen: Katrina, Miss Fannie Burt; Jeannette, Miss Ida Rock; Natalia, Miss Clara St. Maur. Kitty Malone, Miss Annie Mack Berlein.

Mr. Willard was here so recently, and in "The Middleman" in which he will reappear on Monday night at the Duquesne Theater, that there is little or nothing to be said of him which Pittsburgers do not already know. In justice to this distinguished actor I may repeat what was said in this column I may repeat what was said in this column at the close of his first engagement here, namely, that Mr. Willard is the greatest actor England has sent to us in a decade or more. He is a legitimate actor, and an artist, about whose precise merits opinions may differ, to be sure, but of whose ability and sincerity there can be no question. Since he appeared here last many cities have pronounced favorably upon Mr. Willard's work. lard's work.

The plays Mr. Willard will produce are "The plays Mr. Willard will produce are "The Middleman" and "Judah"—the latter a novelty. "The Middleman" will be given on Monday night and the rest of the week, except Thursday, when "Judah" a play of English life by Henry Arthur Jones, will be played. Miss Marie Burroughs, the talented and beautiful actress, and the same even company that appeared with Mr. Willard on the last occasion, will be seen in both plays.

Owing to the illness of Miss Marlowe, and the sudden canceling of her date here, the Grand Opera House will be closed this week. The details of this misfortune to Miss Mar-lowe, Manager Witt and Pittsburg, will be found in the news columns of this issue.

During the present week at the Aivin Theater the distinguished actress and beau tiful woman, Rhes, will be the reigning star During her engagement she will produce two new plays, new to Pittsburg. This is the first season of her career that she has given them a place in her repertoire. The first play to be presented will be "The Czarine, Empress of Russia," a translation Czarine, Empress of Russia," a translation from the French of Eugene Scribe. "Czarina" will be presented on Monday, Wednesday, Friday evenings and Saturday matinee. On Tuesday, Thursday evening and Wednesday matinee together with Saturday night, Rhea will be seen in a new comedy which has proven to be one of her very recent successes. It is an interesting satire which treats of a woman's garrulousness. It had its initial production in Philadelphia two weeks ago, and scored a hit, as it affords Rhea abundant opportunities to invest the character of the Countess with her own charming personality. Therefore, people who prefer Rhea in comedy will have an opportunity to see her this week. Rhea's company is a good one, and it includes Mr. William Harris, who will play two splendid parts. The settings and the costumes will be original, and the productions in every way will be accurate as to detail.

Machester's "Night Owls" will be the attraction at Harry Williams' Academy this week. This attraction has been an annual and welcome visitor here. It is made doubly and welcome visitor here. It is made doubly attractive this season by the acquisition of the famous beauty, Miss Pauline Markham, who is employed at a very high salary. The grand military spectacular first part, entitled "The Blue and the Gray," introduces many delightful camp songs and military terpsichorean figures, as well as artistic groupings and stirring marches. Specialties of the merit follow, including Frank Ellis, German dialect comedian; Mackin and Curdy, character artists; Baly and O'Brien, funny fellows; Emma Bell, the beautiful vocalist, and William J. O'Brien, eccentric musical and talking comedian,

At Harris' Theater to-morrow afternoo Tracy & Stephens' Dramatic Company will commence a week's engagement here. Two handsomely singed dramas will be presented, in which the favorite soubrette, sented, in which the favorite soubrette, Minnie Oscar Gray, will appear, supported by a good dramatic and specialty company. W. T. Stephen's marveious dogs and educated ponies will also take a prominent part in both productions. New scenery and novel mechanical efforts will be employed to lend additional realism. The reportorie for the week has been arranged as follows: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, "The Old Oaken Bucket:" Thursday, Friday and Satur-day, "Vesper Bells."

Henrietta Crosman, who has been very seriously ill for some daya is now out of dan-ger, and her father writes from New York

World's Museum-Theater There are other remarkable curiosities at the World's Museum-Theater this week, but

none to compare with the little girl they call "Krao." A Philadelphia paper says: "You must go and gaze on the gentle 'Krao.' This must go and gaze on the gentle 'Krao.' This man monkey is no lusus nature, such as bearded women, spotted dogs, or giantesses. She is a regular production in the regular order of nature: the descendant of a hairy father and mother, belonging to a tribe of hairy people. The fur on her body is about two inches long, on her forehead somewhat longer. But 'Krao' is by no means illioking. Her eyes are strikingly beautifullarge and full, proclaiming her human affinity. In her habits 'Krao' is half human, half monkey. One remarkable feature is large and full, proclaiming her human, half monkey. One remarkable feature is the fact that her joints are as flexible as those of any monkey. With the greatest ease she can twist her fingers in all directions, while the whole hand can be bent hackward almost to a right angle. With her feet she can pick up any small object from the floor with as much ease as with her hands, and she has the unmistakable monkey-like habit of turning the soles of her feet up flat when sitting down. Although she does not possess an actual tail she has the rudinien: of one, and the formation of the lower part of the body is altogether more like that of a monkey than of a human child. It has often been said that a monkey will not speak because he knows that if he did he would be made to work. Krao, at any rate, can speak Engilsh and German. It might, perhaps, be decided that she is the missing link after all, and is properly designed the human monkey. The Ethiopian wonders will give an entertainment in the theater.

When Manager Harry Davis, of the Fifth Avenue Museum and Family Theater, announces a great attraction like he does this week, it is no wonder that he does so with a great flourish of trumpets, for it is not often one has the opportunity of seeing such a monstrosity as Lionine, the lion-faced woman. With the body and form of a wellwoman. With the body and form of a wellformed woman, yet she has the face and
features of the great king of beasts. Zamora
is another curiosity of unusual note. He is
a triple-jointed man, who, though chained
and bound, can release himself from the
strongest box that was ever made. Lagruna
is a magician, who has no peer in the profession. Mile. Zommetta is the possessor of a
troupe of trained birds, who perform many
amusing tricks. Cool Burgess, the great
stump speaker and ethopian comedian,
makes his appearance in an entirely new
act. The Monumental Specialty Company
from New York will be seen in a long and
varied programme.

Stage Whispers.

DE WOLF HOPPER will go to Europe une to remain there until September. MRS. JAMES BROWN POTTER and her Kurly Bellew are playing "La Tosca" in South London has gone stark mad over the re-frain of a music hall song called "Te-ra-ra-boom-deay."

John T. Kelly is coming this way, presenting the laughable skit, "U & I." It was quite a hit as seen here last season.

"PAUL KAUVAR," that stirring drama depicting scenes from the French Revolution comes to the Grand Opera House next week. Marion Manota has been engaged for the season of summer opera at the New Fifth Avenue, New York. So has Jack Mason, her husband. THE next attraction at Harris' theater

commencing March 14, will be W. H. Powers Company in the successful Irish drama. "The Ivy Leaf." This is one of the worst years for theatricals ever known in London. Three West End managers are in serious financial trouble and may have to give up their play

Dr. AUGUSTIN DALY, the most successful of all the theatrical managers in New York, has found time to write "The Autobiography of Peg Woffington," which was published last week.

An enterprising but cheeky New York man-ager has written to Mrs. Deacon, the woman whose husband killed the Frenchman, Abeille, offering an engagement to star in

GEORGE KEPPEL, who was the local manager of the Patti concert, is to be congratulated upon his financial success. It is a THE lovers of the nautical and our naval the lovers of the nautical and our navail blue and gold will find good entertainment in "The Ensign," at the Alvin Theater week commencing Monday, April 11. It is a strictly nautical drama founded upon a stir-ring historical event—the Mason-Slidell epi-

MISS FYELLIOTT PAGET; whose performance of the Baroness Vera, in Daly's "Last Word," was highly commended by the Pittsburg was highly commended by the Pittsourg press, has accepted an engagement with Proctor & Turner to play Bridget O'Mara, in the New York production of "The English Rose." The territorial restrictions imposed by Mr. Daly pervented Miss Paget's appearance in "The Last Word," in New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Boston. BEERBORN TREE told a story at the Play-

goers' Club of a house painter who had applied to him for employment as an actor in the Haymarket Company. The painter said: "I inclose you a cutting from a news-paper to show you that I have some apti-tude for the stage." The cutting was as follows: "The prisoner; who denied the charge, conducted his own case and defended himself in a somewhat dramatic

"Miss Helvert," the operatic comedy suc-cess adopted from the French by David Belasco, the music by Edmund Audran, will be presented at the Alvin Theater on the be presented at the Alvin Theater on the
leth, with the same beautiful scenic equipment and powerful cast employed during
the life nights' run in New York. It is described as a unique entertainment of great
humor, piquancy and quaintness. In the
cast are such popular players and singers as
Mark Smith, M. A. Kennedy, Harry Harwood, J. W. Herbert, George Lyding, Kate
Davis, Laura Clement and Louise LeslieCarter.

manager of Mr. David Henderson's Dumanager of Mr. David Henderson's Du-quesne theater, but this year retained at the Chicago Opera House, will go to the Garden Theater, New York, for the summer run of "Sinbad" at that house. Mr. Wemyss Hen-derson will be with the New York produc-tion as manager, and Georgie Sinbad Bowles will have to change his name during next summer's Chicago Opera House extrava-ganza season to Ali Baba Bowles and remain in the big bustling queen city of the un-salted seas.

THE Paris Figure, in alluding to the ap-pearance of Ena Bertoldi, the balancing phenomenon, who evidently astonished the phenomenon, who evidently astonished the not easily-surprised Parisians, said: "In a week the entire city will rave about hen in three weeks it will be crazy, and in three months she will dwell in her own hotel and maintain an establishment like a prince of the realm, for she is certainly the one pronounced novelty of the season." The captivating Bertoldi will make her American debut in this city as a leading feature with the Boston Howard Atheneum Company.

Mrs. Language and processes the success of the season of the season with the success of the season with the success of the season with the success of the season when the success of the season with the success of the season were season when the season were season with the season when the season were season with the season were season when the season

Boston Howard Atheneum Company.

MRS. LANGTRY, encouraged by the success I mentioned in a previous cable at one of the Covent Garden balls, writes the London correspondent of the New York Dramatic News, has been taking dancing lessons from the Alhambra ballet master, and made her first appearance as a danseuse at a Criterion matinee, dancing a minuet in skirts. She scored a magnificent frost, one irreverent critic coming out the next day and comparing the steps of the beauteous Lily to the antics of the proverbial bovine in a china shop.

Francis Wilson is getting the little theater that connects with his residence at New Rochelle in readiness for a spring season for the benefit of his friends. Homer Emmons, of the Fourteenth Street Theater, has painted several scenes for it. Frank W. Sanger and A. H. Canby are announced as the two features in some of the earlier productions on this stage. Fifteen years ago Sanger and Canby were both members of the stock company at the Chestnut Theater, Philadelphia. It is sufficient to say that they are better managers than they were actors. Canby tells me that he goes in for extremely light comedy acting, and Sanger leans toward tragedy. Mr. Wilson talks of staging "Othello," in which case the two little colored boys that appear nightly in his company will siternate in the character of the jealous Moor.

Miss Jourstone Bennery (Jane) has conson for the benefit of his friends. Home

Miss Johnstone Bennett (Jane) has con-tributed a short article to a Philadelphia magazine entitled "A Plea for Individual-ity," in which the author deprecates the imitative tendency in actors and actresses. In the article occurs this sentiment: "Be-

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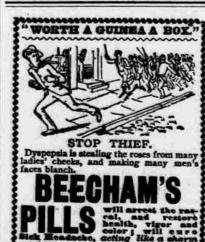
fore I went on the stage I made a resolution to copy no one. If I haven't brains enough to copy no one. If I haven't brains enough to originate, I said to myself, I'll stop. I would rather be a good Johnstone Bennett than a poor somebody else. While I have played a number of distinct characterizations, so that each will stand out by itself, I have copied no one. I think my most severe critics and worst enemies will admit that." The directors of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York will next season assume House in New York will next season assume the management of this opera house, and E. C. Stanton will probably be reappointed as manager. The latest offer made came from Sir Angustus Harris, who promises to bring over his Covent Garden Comuany, provided he was guaranteed \$5,000 per performance.

MARIE BURROUGHS, leading lady of the Willard Company, isa San Francisco girl who has accomplished a great deal thus far in her stage career. As leading lady of the Madison Square Stock Company she shared the artistic honors with the veteran members of that organization. She is one of the beautities of the American stage.

Prof. Byrox W. King's school of elecution

PROP. BYRON W. KING's school of elecution Prov. Byrnon W. King's school of elecution will give a matinee at the Grand Opera House, and present Shakespeare's "Othello" at popular prices. The following well-known people are in the cast: Mr. Ed. Languer, George Gallupe, Kirk Brown, George Kain, J. H. Hutchinson, J. H. Vickestain, Paul Little, M. A. Sweeney, E. Herbert, Miss Adda Clark and Miss Minnie Graul.

BILL NYE'S play, "The Cadi," was produced in New York some months ago and had an extended run at the Union Square Theater. Everyone who has read the laughable and witty articles that have come laughable and witty articles that have come from his pen will realize the fact that a play from him must possess exceptional merit. It will be presented at the Duquesne Theater, following Willard, by a company selected with the greatest care, every member being well adapted toward interpreting in the proper manner the peculiar drollery that would eminate from so brilliant a writer as Mr. Nye. The sensation the piece has created elsewhere insures a very large attendance at its first presentation in Pittsburg.



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OT MA TIA

NQUIRER, PHILA. — For pure acting without trickery. Mr. Willard is certainly without a supe-

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ECORD, PHILA.—It is not venturing to much to say he is one of the most popular actors England has sent us.

AILY NEWS, N. Y.—Seldom has an actor received such a universal ex-pression of approval as was awarded Mr. Willard.

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